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# 2024 Seoul Family Report



The Seoul Family Report, an annual publication of the Seoul Metropolitan Government since 2015, describes the dynamics of families and family life in Seoul and examines the citizens' attitudes toward family-related issues and policies. This Report includes the results of the annual Seoul Family Survey along with an overview of public policies supporting families in Seoul. This English booklet serves a summary of the 2024 Seoul Family Report, which is written in Korean by Jaerim Lee (Seoul National University), Seohee Son (Sookmyung Women's University), and their research assistants. The complete 2024 Report can be accessed on the Family Seoul website (familyseoul.or.kr).

#### Support for Parents Childcare and Housing Infrastructure



Tansaeng-Eungwon Seoul Project (Birth **Encouragement Project)** 



### Support for Childbirth

#### **Support for** prospective parents

- Support for infertile couples
- Support for the cost of freezing eggs
- Support for wedding ceremonies utilizing major facilities in Seoul
- Social dining and healthy meals for people living alone
- Marriage insight talk show

#### **Support for** pregnant women

- Support for transportation expenses for pregnant women
- Seoul-style postpartum care expenses
- Total care for new mothers' bodies and
- Financial support voucher for childbirth
- Safety insurance for multiple births

#### Support for gaps in home childcare

- Support for Seoul-style childcare expenses
- ➤ Three types of Seoul-style childcare services for nighttime and weekend workers
- Childcare support for the firstborn during the second childbirth
- Childcare support project

#### **Strengthening elementary-age** childcare

- Seoul-style morning care Kium Centers
- > Strengthening provision of emergency temporary afterschool childcare services for elementary school students
- Temporary childcare and hospital accompaniment service for sick children in major Kium Centers
- Strengthening the public role of elementary-age childcare facilities (local children's centers)

#### Improvement of the quality of infant and toddler childcare

- Seoul-style Moa Daycare Center expanded to 120 communities
- > 24 hours a day! 365 days a year! Emergency childcare support for all infants and toddlers
- Support for daycare centers in danger of closing down
- Seoul-style daycare centers specialized in newborn care
- Expansion of high-quality public childcare facilities close to home

#### Newlywed/Childcarefriendly Housing Support

- Establishment of childcare-friendly housing
- Childcare-friendly housing certification system
- Support for rental deposit interest costs for newlyweds

#### Support the healthy growth of children

- > Seoul Child Development Centers
- ➤ Childrearing Coaching Center
- Providing dinner at daycare centers
- Providing free lunches during vacations at Kium Centers
- Support for family happiness lunch boxes, meal kits, and food discounts for the commute home from work

#### **Establishment of** infrastructure

- Providing childbirth and parenting information website
- Development of performance indicators for childbirth and parenting
- Expansion of childbirth and parenting values: Seoul Birth Encouragement Festival, joint campaign with businesses to celebrate births

### **Support for Parents**

Childrearing-friendly Work and Environment

#### Creation of childrearingfriendly infrastructure for excursions such as Seoulstyle kids cafes

- Establishment of Seoul-style kids cafes
- Designation of Seoul Kids OK Zones
- Seoul Mom and Dad Taxi
- Establishment of Seoul Mom and Dad VIP Zones
- Establishment of family restrooms
- Establishment of family-friendly parking
- Happy Mom and Dad Culture Project
- **Expansion of Seoul Toy Library**
- Expansion of benefits for families with multiple children

#### Seoul-style housekeeping support Seoul-style housekeeping support

- Foreign housekeeper pilot project

#### **Expansion of work**life balance corporate culture

- Seoul-style SME work-life balance point system
- Seoul-style support for small but strong businesses
- Promotion of introduction of ESG indicators evaluating efforts to overcome low birth rates



#### **Seoul Woman Up Project**

- Woman Up Job Search Support Grants
- Woman Up Internships
- Woman Up Employment Incentive Grants

#### **Economic support for** caregivers such as parental pay

- Payment of parental allowance
- Payment of child allowance

### Seoul City's Customized Childbirth and Parenting Services by Age Group

Seoul City provides comprehensive information for childrearing, including details about the "Birth Encouragement Seoul Project," through childbirth and parenting information website.

- ▶ View information on pregnancy, childbirth, and childrearing at a glance
- Search for customized policies and services by marital status, service target, child age, and residential district
- Apply for various services related to pregnancy, childbirth, and childrearing provided by Seoul Metropolitan Government
- ▶ Use the reminder function to ensure you never miss an application deadline
- Input your household status, residential area, areas of interest, and more to receive policy information via text message

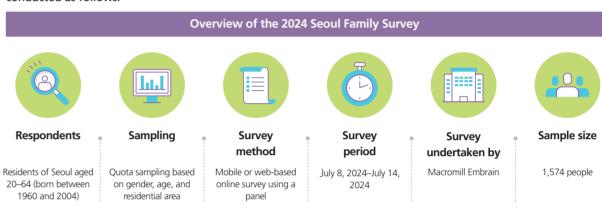


#### \* https://umppa.seoul.go.kr

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### 2024 Seoul Family Survey

The 2024 Seoul Family Report was written based on the results from the 2024 Seoul Family Survey, which was conducted as follows:



▶ The survey has been undertaken in the same way by the same company using the same sampling method for seven consecutive years since 2018.

The "Seoul Family Report," published annually since 2015, examines the status of families in Seoul as well as citizens' changing attitudes to families, and introduces domestic and international policies related to families. In 2022, an English summary was published, and in 2023, English, Chinese, Japanese, and Vietnamese summaries were published.



Data: Family Seoul (January 19, 2024). 2023 Seoul Family Report. https://familyseoul.or.kr/node/22144



# Support for Becoming a Parent





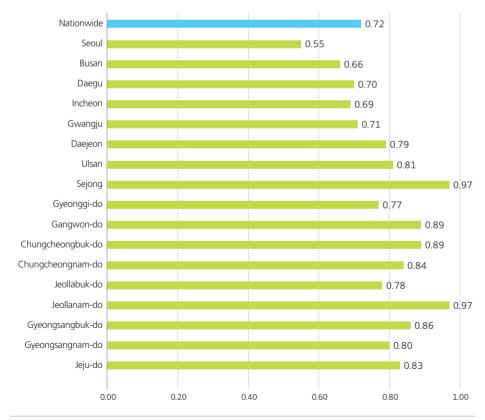
### **Becoming a Parent**



Total Fertility Rate in Seoul

#### • Total Fertility Rate by City/Province

▶ Seoul's total fertility rate in 2023 (Statistics Korea, 2024) was **0.55, the lowest** among metropolitan areas nationwide.



Unit (children per woman of childbearing age) Note: Total fertility rate is the average number of children a woman is expected to give birth to during her childbearing years (15–49 years old) assuming the current fertility level continues. It is calculated by summing total birth rate data by age group (5-year intervals)

Data: Statistics Korea (2024). Population Census.

# Intentions

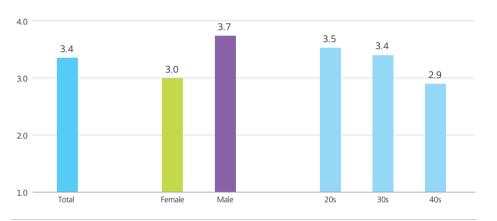
to Have a

Child

## Intentions to Have a Child Someday

- ► The average intentions of childless Seoul citizens in their 20s to 40s to have a child someday (range: 1–5 points) was **3.4 points**, which was between **"neutral"** (3 points) and **"mostly yes"** (4 points)
- ▶ **Men** (3.7 points) were found to be more willing to have a child than women (3 points), indicating a **significant difference between genders**.
- ▶ By age group, those in their **20s** (3.5 points) and **30s** (3.4 points) were more willing to have a child than those in their 40s (2.9 points)

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Unit (Points)

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (884 childless respondents aged 20–49)

2024 Seoul Family Report Part 1\_ Support for Becoming a Parent



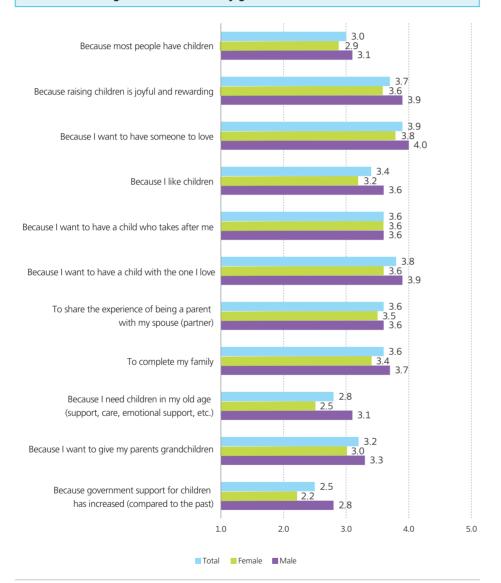


#### Reason for "Intending" to Have a child

#### • Reason for "Intending" to Have a Child

Among childless Seoul citizens in their 20s to 40s who expressed an above-average intention to have a child, the top reasons for doing so (range: 1-5) were: "Because I want to have someone to love" (average 3.9 points), "Because I want to have a child with my loved one" (average 3.8 points), and "Because raising children is joyful and rewarding" (average 3.7 points).

There was **no significant difference by gender**.



Unit (Points)

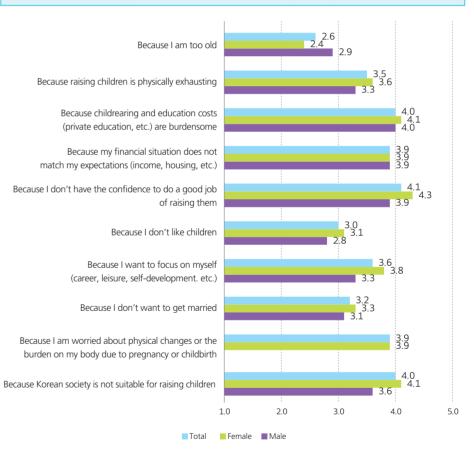
Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (247 women and 324 men aged 20–49 who were childless and with "neutral," "strong" and "very strong" intentions to have a child)



#### Reason for "Not Intending" to Have a Child

#### • Reason for "Not Intending" to Have a Child

- ▶ Among married and unmarried, childless Seoul citizens in their 20s to 40s who expressed a weaker than average intentions to have a child, the top reason for not having them (range: 1-5) was: "Because I don't have the confidence to do a good job of raising them" (average 4.1 points).
- Additionally, the average scores for socioeconomic reasons such as "Because childrearing and education costs (private education, etc.) are burdensome" (average 4.0 points), "Because Korean society is not suitable for raising children" (average 4.0 points), and "Because my financial situation does not match my expectations (income, housing, etc.)" (average 3.9 points) were also relatively high.
- Women were more likely than men to select Korean society as being unsuitable for raising children, focusing on themselves, and lacking the confidence to raise their children as well as they wanted as their reason for being unlikely to have children.



Unit (Points)

Note: The reason "Because I don't want to get married" was chosen by 213 women and 118 men who have never been married, and the reason "Because I am worried about physical changes or the burden on my body due to pregnancy or childbirth" was selected by 244 women.

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (Unmarried or childless respondents with "no intention at all", "not much intention" or "moderate intention" of becoming parents) aged 20–49 years old, 244 women, 140 men)

2024 Seoul Family Report Part 1\_ Support for Becoming a Parent



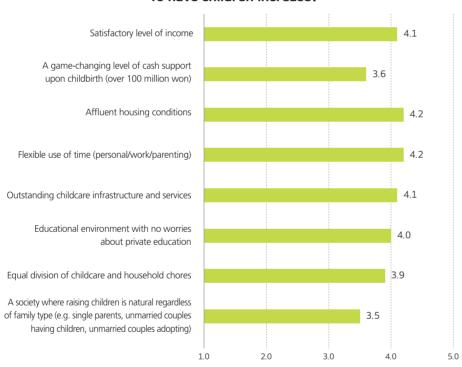


# Ideal Conditions and the Intentions to Have a Child

#### • Ideal Conditions and the Intentions to Have a Child

- ▶ Childless Seoul citizens in their 20s to 40s were asked, "How much would the following situations increase your Intentions to have a child?" and were presented with eight possible responses to rate (range: 1-5).
- "Flexible use of time (personal/work/parenting)" (average 4.2 points), "Affluent housing conditions" (average 4.2 points), "Outstanding childcare infrastructure and services" (average 4.1 points), "Satisfactory level of income" (average 4.1 points), and "Educational environment with no worries about private education" (average 4.0 points) all scored relatively highly.
- The average score for "A game-changing level of cash support upon childbirth (over 100 million won)" scored relatively low at 3.6 points

### In ideal conditions, how much would your Intentions to have children increase?



Unit (Points)

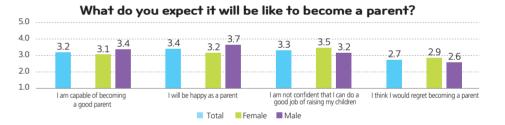
Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (776 childless respondents aged 20–49)



# If I Become a Parent

#### • If I Become a Parent

- ▶ The average level of agreement of childless Seoul citizens in their 20s to 40s with the statement, "I can be a good parent" was 3.2 points, and the average level of agreement with the statement, "I would be happy to become a parent" was 3.4 points (both range: 1-5), indicating that their confidence and expectations about becoming a parent were slightly higher than "neutral" (3 points).
- ▶ By gender, women were less likely than men to agree with the two statements (3.1 points for women versus 3.4 points for men about being a good parent, and 3.2 points for women versus 3.7 points for men about being happy to become a parent.
- ▶ The average level of agreement with the statement, "I am not confident that I can do a good job of raising children", was 3.3 points, which was slightly higher than "neutral" (3 points), while the average level of agreement with the statement, "I think I would regret becoming a parent", was 2.7 points (range: 1-5), which is slightly lower than "neutral" (3 points).
- By gender, **women were more likely** to agree with both statements, (3.5 points for women versus 3.2 points for men for the former and 2.9 points for women versus 2.6 points for men for the latter).
- In other words, women perceived their parenting efficacy lower than men and had a more negative image of becoming a parent.



Unit (Points)

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (402 women and 374 men without children aged 20–49)



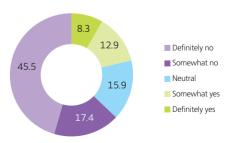
#### Intentions to Have a Second Child

#### Intentions to Have a Second Child Someday

▶ 62.9% of Seoul citizens in their 20s and 40s who currently have one child indicated they were **unlikely** to have a second child someday ("definitely no," "somewhat no"), while 37.1% said they were **likely** ("neutral," "somewhat yes," "definitely yes")

#### Intentions to have a second child someday

(Aged 20s to 40s with one child)



Unit (%)

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (132 respondents aged 20–49 with one child of which 49 selected "neutral," "somewhat yes," "definitely yes")



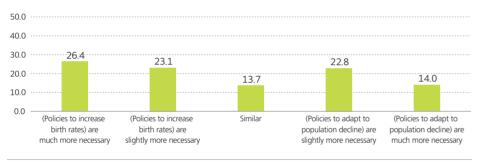
### Policy Responses to Low **Fertility Rates: Directions**



#### **Increasing Birth Rates** VS. **Adapting to Population Decline**

• Increasing Birth Rates vs. Adapting to Population Decline

- Policies responding to low birth rates can focus on either increasing the birth rate or adapting to a situation where the population is decreasing. The 2024 Seoul Family Survey presented policies with conflicting priorities and asked which one respondents considered to be more important.
- Among Seoul citizens aged 20–64, **26.4%** agreed that **"low birth rates are a serious** social problem, so policies to increase the birth rate" are much more necessary than "policies to adapt to population decline."



Unit (%)

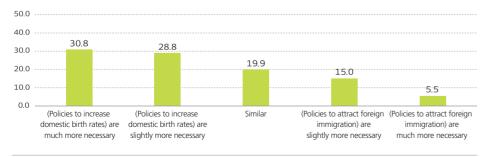
Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey



#### Increasing **Domestic Birth Rates** VS. **Increasing Immigration**

• Increasing Domestic Birth Rates vs. Increasing Immigration

**30.8%** of Seoul citizens aged 20−64 thought that **"policies to increase the** population by increasing the birth rate of domestic residents" were "much more necessary" than "policies to increase the number of foreign immigrants" which was the highest, and the percentage of those who agreed that "policies to increase the population by accepting foreign immigration" decreased as that need was emphasized more strongly.



Unit (%)

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey

### PART 2

# Support for **Parents**



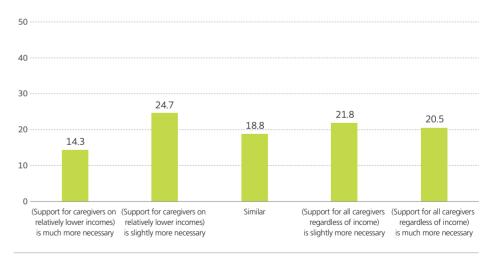




### **Childcare Support Policies: Directions**

**Support for** Low-income **Caregivers** VS. Support for All **Caregivers** 

- Support for Low-income Caregivers vs. Support for All Caregivers **Regardless of Income**
- The results of the survey question posed to Seoul citizens aged 20–64 asking them to choose between "support for caregivers with relatively low incomes" and "support for all caregivers regardless of income" showed that the percentage of respondents who responded that "support for all caregivers" is more necessary ("slightly more necessary" or "much more necessary") was 42.3%, which was higher than the percentage of respondents who responded that "support for caregivers on relatively lower incomes" was necessary (39%).



Unit (%)

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey

2024 Seoul Family Report Parents

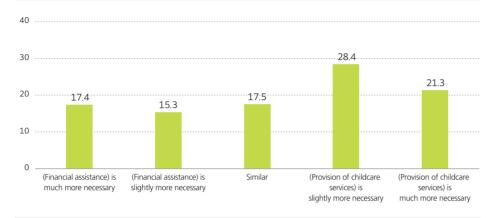




# Financial Assistance vs. Provision of Childcare Services

#### • Financial Assistance vs. Provision of Childcare Services

▶ With 49.7%, there were more responses that **"provision of childcare services** (e.g. daycare centers, government childcare services)**"** is more necessary ("slightly more necessary" and "much more necessary") to support parents, which was higher than the 32.7% who responded that **"financial assistance** (e.g. parental allowance, childbirth allowance, child allowance)**"** is more necessary.



Unit (%)

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey



Unit (%)

#### Preferred Types of Childcare Support Policies

#### Direction of Childcare Support Policy

- ▶ To reduce the burden of care on families raising young children, 65.6% of Seoul citizens aged 20–64 ranked "Support for parents to directly care for their children (e.g., childcare leave)" as the top priority.
- ▶ The second highest priority was **"Support for public childcare services** (e.g., public daycare centers, government childcare services)**"** at 43.8%.

# First priority Second priority 100 80 65.6 40 20 Support for parents to care for children directly (e.g., childcare leave) Support for relatives to care for children (e.g., grandparent care allowance) Support for public childcare services (e.g., public daycare centers, government childcare services) Support for private childcare services (e.g., support for private babysitters)

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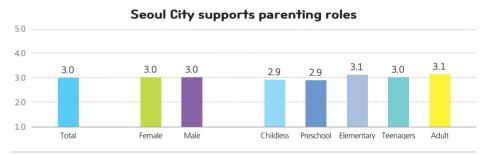
# Parenting: Experiences and Attitudes



#### Support for Parenting Roles: Seoul City

#### • Support for Parenting Roles: Seoul City

- When Seoul citizens aged 20–64 were asked how much they agreed with the statement, "Seoul City supports parenting roles" (range: 1-5), the average was
   3 points, which was "netural."
- ▶ Those with children agreed more strongly (3.1 points) than those without (2.9 points).



Unit (Points)

Note: "Preschool" refers to parents of preschool-aged children, "Elementary" refers to parents of elementary-aged children, "Teenager' refers to parents of children aged 12–18 (excluding elementary school students), and "Adult" refers to parents of children aged 19 or older (based on the age of the first child)

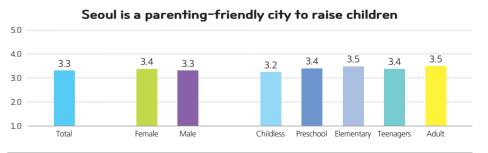
Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey



#### Perception of Parenting-Friendliness: Seoul

#### • Perception of Parenting-Friendliness in Seoul

- ▶ Seoul citizens aged 20–64 rated the statement "Seoul is a parenting-friendly city to raise children" with an average of **3.3 points** (range: 1-5), which **is slightly higher than "netural." (3 points)**.
- ▶ Those with children agreed more strongly (3.5 points) than those without (3.2 points).



Unit (Points)

Note: "Preschool" refers to parents of preschool-aged children, "Elementary" refers to parents of elementary-aged children, "Teenager refers to parents of children aged 12–18 (excluding elementary school students), and "Adult" refers to parents of children aged 19 or older (based on the age of the first child)

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey

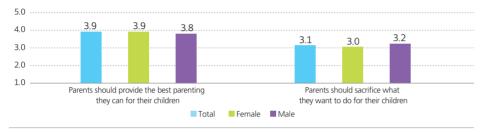
Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey



#### Stereotypes About Parental Roles

#### • Stereotypes About Parental Roles

- ▶ The average score (range: 1-5) given by Seoul citizens aged 20–64 when asked how much they agree with the statement, "Parents should provide the best parenting they can for their children," was **3.9 points**, indicating **general agreement**, and there was no statistically significant difference between genders.
- The average level of agreement with the statement, "Parents should sacrifice what they want to do for their children," was **3.1 points** (range: 1-5), indicating "netural" (3 points), and by gender, the level of agreement among **men** (3.2 points) was **higher** than that among women (3 points).



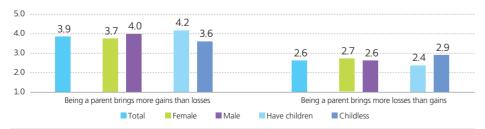
Unit (Points)

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey

#### The Pros and Cons of Being a Parent

#### The Pros and Cons of Being a Parent

- ➤ The average level of agreement among Seoul citizens aged 20–64 with the statement, "Being a parent brings more gains than losses," was **3.9 points** (range: 1-5), indicating **general agreement**.
- ▶ By gender, **men** (4 points) agreed more than women (3.7 points) that being a parent brings **more gains** than losses.
- ▶ People with children (4.2 points) agreed more than those without (3.6 points) that being a parent brings more gains than losses.
- ▶ The average level of agreement with the statement, "Being a parent brings more losses than gains" was 2.6 points (range: 1-5), which was lower than "netural" (3 points).
- ▶ The difference by gender was not statistically significant.
- When asked whether they agreed with the statement, "Being a parent brings more losses than gains," people without children (2.9 points) agreed more than those with (2.4 points).



Unit (Points)

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey

#### PART 3

# Support for Couples





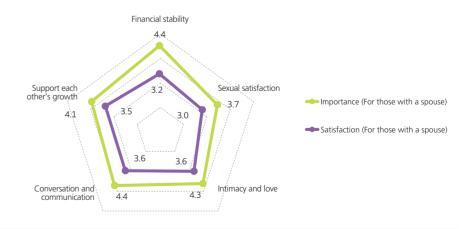
# Married Life and Spousal Relations



**Married Life** 

#### • Importance of and Satisfaction with Various Aspects of Married Life

- ▶ Seoul citizens with spouses were presented with five aspects of married life and asked to rate each (range: 1-5) on its importance to a happy marriage.
- ▶ The most important aspects of married life for Seoul citizens with spouses were "financial stability" (4.4 points), "conversation and communication" (4.4 points), "intimacy and love" (4.3 points), "support for each other's growth" (4.1 points), and "sexual satisfaction" (3.7 points) in that order.
- ▶ When the same people were asked **how satisfied they were with each aspect of their marriages** (range: 1-5), the level of satisfaction was **lower** than the importance across the board, compared to the average of importance levels.
- The aspect with the largest difference between perceived importance and perceived satisfaction was "financial stability" (1.2 point difference), followed by "conversation and communication" (0.8 point difference), "sexual satisfaction" (0.7 point difference), and "intimacy and love" (0.7 point difference).



Unit (Points)

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (754 respondents with spouses)



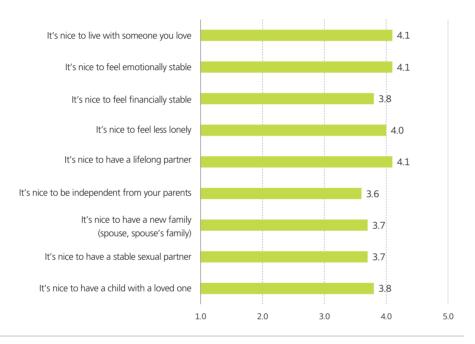


# Attitudes Toward Getting Married: Pros and Cons

#### • Advantages of Marriage

- As a result of asking Seoul citizens aged 20–64 to what extent (range: 1-5) they agree that nine aspects of marriage are beneficial, "It's nice to live with someone you love" (average 4.1 points), "It's good for your psychological stability" (average 4.1 points) and "It's nice to have a lifelong partner" (average 4.1 points) all ranked highly.
- In other words, **emotional satisfaction and intimacy** were seen as significant benefits.

#### The nice thing about marriage is X



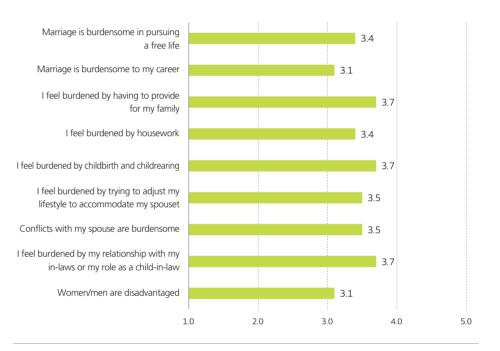
Unit (Points)

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey

#### • Disadvantages of Marriage

As a result of asking Seoul citizens aged 20–64 to what extent (range: 1-5) they agree that nine aspects of marriage are burdensome, "I feel burdened by having to provide for my family" (average 3.7 points), "I feel burdened by childbirth and childrearing" (average 3.7 points) and "I feel burdened by relationship with my inlaws or my role as a child-in-law" (average 3.7 points) all scored highly.

#### I feel burdened by X after getting married



Unit (Points)

Note: Some questions are worded differently depending on gender (Women: "Women are disadvantaged", "I feel burdened by my relationship with my in-laws and my role as a daughter-in-law"; Men: "Men are disadvantaged", "I feel burdened by my relationship with my in-laws and my role as a son-in-law")

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey

2024 Seoul Family Report Part 3\_ Support for Couples



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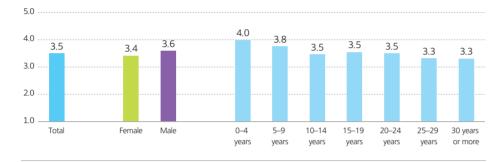


# Sufficiency of Conversation with Spouse

#### • Sufficiency of Conversation with Spouse

- The average score (range: 1-5) regarding the sufficiency of the amount of conversation with their spouse as rated subjectively by married Seoul citizens was

  3.5 points, between "average" (3 points) and "generally sufficient" (4 points).
- By gender, **more men** (3.6 points) perceived that they had **a sufficient conversation** with their spouse than women (3.4 points).
- ▶ Those who had been married for 0-4 years (4 points) perceived that they had a sufficient conversation with their spouse to a greater degree than those who had been married for 25 years or more (25–29 years 3.3 points; 30 years or more 3.3 points).



Unit (Points)

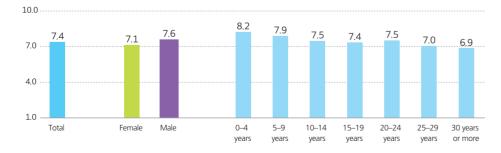
Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (754 respondents with spouses)



#### Happiness of Relationship with Spouse

#### • Happiness of Relationship with Spouse

- When married Seoul citizens were asked how happy they had been in their relationship with their spouses in the past month (on a scale of 1-10), the average was 7.4 points, which was high.
- ▶ By gender, **men** (7.6 points) perceived their relationship with their spouses to be **happier** than women (7.1 points).
- ▶ By length of marriage, those who had been married for 0-4 years of marriage (8.2 points) perceived their relationship with their spouses to be happier than those who had been married for 25 years or longer (25–29 years 7 points; 30 years or more 6.9 points).



Unit (Points)

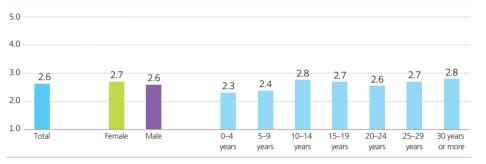
Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (754 respondents with spouses)



#### Negative Interactions with Spouse

#### • Negative Interactions with Spouse

- ▶ The average level of **negative interactions** with spouses reported by married Seoul citizens was **2.6 points** (range: 1-5), between "not so much" (2 points) and "neutral" (3 points).
- There was no statistically significant difference by gender.
- ► Those who had been married for 30 years or more (2.8 points) perceived a higher level of negative interaction than newlyweds who had only been married for 0–4 years (2.3 points).



Unit (Points)

Note: The average of 5 sentences from the scale of Stanley et al. (2004) measuring the levels of negative interactions with romantic partners was used.

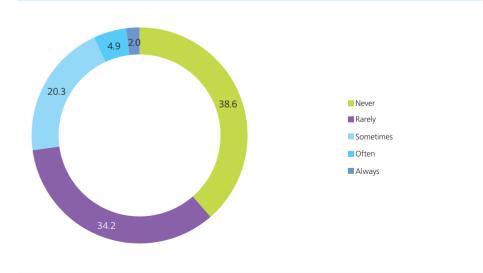
Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (754 respondents with spouses)



# Experience of Considering Divorce

#### • Experience of Considering Divorce

▶ Among Seoul citizens with spouses, 27.2% have **seriously considered divorce** "sometimes," "often," or "always" in the past year due to marital conflict.



Unit (%)

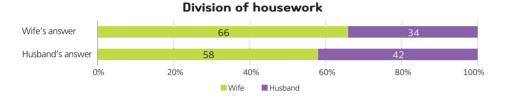
Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (754 respondents with spouses)



## Division of Housework

#### • Division of Housework and Other Household Chores with Spouse

- When asked about the ratio of housework and other household chores between husbands and wives, with the total being 100%, women thought that the average was 66:34 for wife:husband, whereas men thought that the average was 58:42 for wife:husband.
- Although both genders thought **wives did more** housework than husbands, women responded that they were doing a higher percentage of housework.



Unit (%)

Note: The percentage of housework and other household chores performed by wives is the average of what wives responded they did and what husbands said their wives did and vice versa for men.

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (754 respondents with spouses)



#### Division of Childcare and Education

#### • Division of Childcare and Education

- ▶ When asked about the ratio of childcare and education between husbands and wives, with the total being 100%, **women** thought that the average **was 68:32 for wife:husband**, whereas men thought that the average was **60:40 for wife:husband**.
- ▶ Although both genders thought **wives did more** than husbands, women responded that they were doing a higher percentage of childcare.

# Division of childcare and education Wife's answer 68 32 Husband's answer 60 40 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Unit (%)

Note: The percentage of childcare and education performed by wives is the average of what wives responded they did and what husbands said their wives did and vice versa for men.

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (136 wives and 170 husbands with children under 18 years old)



# Support for Families





# Family Life: Priority and Experiences

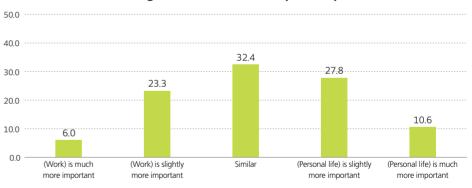


Work
vs.
Personal
Life
vs.
Family
Life

#### • Work vs. Personal Life

- ▶ When asking Seoul citizens aged 20-64 whether "Work (e.g., employment, career)" or "Personal Life (e.g., leisure, self-development, personal time)" was **more important**, the largest proportion of respondents responded that **both are similarly important**.
- ▶ 32.4% of people said both were similarly important, 27.8% said personal life was slightly more important, and 23.3% said work was slightly more important.

### Work (e.g., employment, career) vs. Personal Life (e.g., leisure, self-development, personal time)



Unit (%)

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey

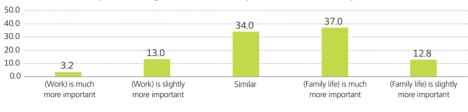
Part 4\_ Support for Families 2024 Seoul Family Report 1. Family Life: Priority and Experiences



#### • Work vs. Family life

▶ When asking Seoul citizens aged 20–64 whether "Work (e.g., employment, career)" or "Family Life (e.g., life with a spouse, children, parents)" was more important, "(Family life) is slightly more important" (37%) and "They are similar" (34%) were the top responses.

#### Work (e.g., employment, career) vs. Family Life (e.g., life with a spouse, children, parents)



Unit (%)

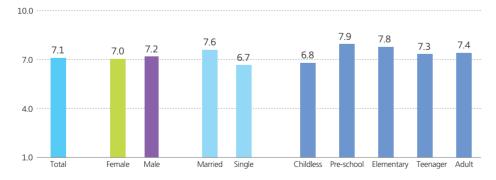
Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey



#### **Happiness** with Family Life

#### • Happiness with Family Life

- As a result of asking Seoul citizens aged 20-64 how happy they were with their family life over the past month, the average was 7.1 points (range: 1-10), indicating that their family life was somewhat happy.
- Those with spouses (7.6 points) responded that their family life was happier than those without spouses (6.7 points).
- Those with children (7.5 points) responded that their family life was happier than those without children (6.8 points).
- In terms of child development stage, those whose first child was a preschooler were the happiest at 7.9 points followed by those with elementary-aged children (7.8 points), those with adult children (7.4 points), and those with teenagers (7.3 points).



Unit (Points)

Note: "Preschool" refers to parents of preschool-aged children, "Elementary" refers to parents of elementary-aged children, "Teenager' refers to parents of children aged 12-18 (excluding elementary school students), and "Adult" refers to parents of children aged 19 or older (based on the age of the first child)

Data: All respondents to the 2024 Seoul Family Survey

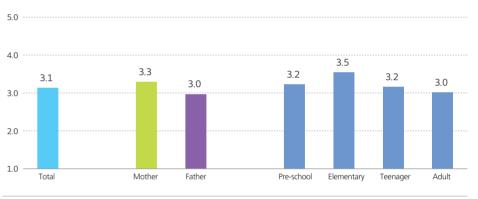


#### **Sufficiency** of Parent-**Child Time**

#### • Sufficiency of Time Spent with Children

- ▶ When Seoul citizens with children were asked to rate **the amount of time they spent** with their children (range: 1-5), the average was **3.1 points**, which was perceived as
- By **gender**, more **women** (3.3 points) responded that they spent enough time with their children than men (3 points). In other words, that more mothers felt they spent enough time with their children than fathers.
- By child development stage, parents of elementary-aged children (3.5 points) were more likely to respond that they spent enough time with their children compared to parents of teenagers (3.2 points) and adult children (3 points).

#### I spend enough time with my children



Unit (Points)

Note: "Preschool" refers to parents of preschool-aged children, "Elementary" refers to parents of elementary-aged children, "Teenager' refers to parents of children aged 12-18 (excluding elementary school students), and "Adult" refers to parents of children aged

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (690 respondents with children)

19 or older (based on the age of the first child)

2024 Seoul Family Report 2. Getting Married: Intentions and Attitudes





### Getting Married: Intentions and Attitudes

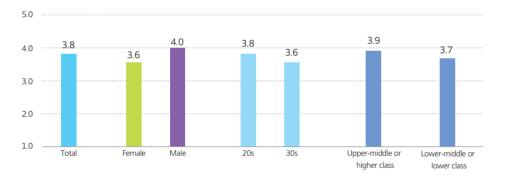


#### Intentions to get Married

#### • Intentions to get Married

- ▶ The average score regarding the intentions to get married someday (range: 1-5) among unmarried Seoul citizens in their 20s and 30s was **3.8 points**, indicating that most people were **generally in favor of getting married**.
- ▶ By **gender, men** (4 points) were more likely to want to marry than women (3.6 points).
- ▶ By **age group**, those in their **20s** (3.8 points) were more likely to want to marry than those in their 30s (3.6 points)
- ▶ Those who perceived themselves to be upper-middle or higher class (3.9 points) were more likely to want to marry than those who considered themselves to be lower-middle or lower class (3.7 points).

#### Intentions to get married (someday)



Unit (Points)

Note: There are six subjective classes (upper-upper class, lower-upper class, upper-middle class, lower-middle class, upper-middle class, and lower-lower class) and responses were classified into upper-middle or higher class, or lower-middle or lower class.

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (554 respondents in their 20s and 30s who have never been married and have no children)

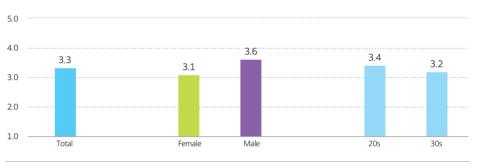


#### Attitudes Toward Marriage and Voluntary Single

#### • Attitudes Toward Marriage

- When asked how strongly (range: 1-5) they agreed with the statement, "It is better to get married than to choose to stay single," unmarried Seoul citizens in their 20s and 30s gave an average score of 3.3 points, slightly more than "neutral" (3 points).
- By **gender, men** (3.6 points) were more likely to agree than women (3.1 points).
- By **age group, those in their 20s** (3.4 points) were more likely to agree than those in their 30s (3.2 points).

#### It is better to get married than to choose to stay single



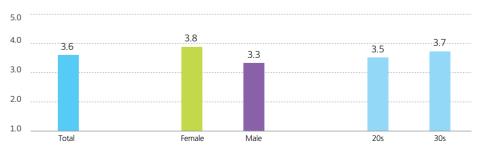
Unit (Points)

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (554 respondents in their 20s and 30s who have never been married and have no children)

#### • Attitudes Toward Voluntary Single

- ▶ When asked how strongly (range: 1-5) they agreed with the statement, "It is okay to stay single and never get married," unmarried Seoul citizens in their 20s and 30s gave an average score of 3.6 points, which is generally in agreement.
- ▶ By **gender, women** (3.8 points) were more likely to agree than men (3.3 points).
- ▶ By **age group, those in their 30s** (3.7 points) were more likely to agree than those in their 20s (3.5 points).

#### It's okay to stay single and never get married



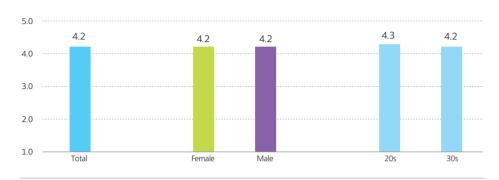
Unit (Points)

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (554 respondents in their 20s and 30s who have never been married and have no children)

#### • Attitudes Toward Prerequisites for Marriage

▶ When asked how strongly (range: 1-5) they agreed with the statement, "It is necessary to have a stable job in order to get married," unmarried Seoul citizens in their 20s and 30s gave an **average score of 4.2 points**, which is **generally in agreement**.

#### It is necessary to have a stable job in order to get married



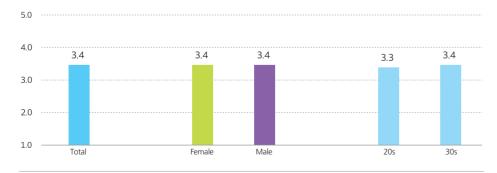
Unit (Points)

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (554 respondents in their 20s and 30s who have never been married and have no children)

#### • Awareness of Constraints due to Marriage

- ▶ When asked how strongly (range: 1-5) they agreed with the statement, "If I get married, I won't be able to do what I want," unmarried Seoul citizens in their 20s and 30s gave an average score of 3.4 points, which showed slightly more than "neutral" (3 points).
- ▶ The differences between different genders and age groups were not statistically significant period.

#### If I get married, I won't be able to do what I want



Unit (Points)

Data: 2024 Seoul Family Survey (554 respondents in their 20s and 30s who have never been married and have no children)

