

1. Reanalysis of Secondary Data

1) The 6th Gwangju Seo-gu Community Social Security Survey (2025)

- This survey aims to provide baseline data necessary for developing the Community Social Security Plan by assessing local social security conditions and forecasting demand for welfare services.

〈Table 1〉 Overview of the 6th Gwangju Seo-gu Community Social Security Survey

Category	2023 Survey Overview
Survey Cycle	Every four years
Survey Area	Gwangju Seo-gu
Survey Period	September–October 2025
Survey Content	Analysis of the local environment : including Gwangju Seo-gu’s demographic structure, welfare demand based on the size of major welfare target groups, and welfare provision based on budgets and welfare facilities; and a survey of residents’ needs, including common survey items developed by the Ministry of Health and Welfare and Gwangju Metropolitan City, as well as additional items developed by Gwangju Seo-gu

Source: 2025 6th Gwangju Seo-gu Community Social Security Survey (reprocessed)

〈Table 2〉 Survey Items of the 6th Gwangju Seo-gu Community Social Security Survey

Category	Survey Items
A. General Household Characteristics	- Total number of household members • Characteristics of each household member: relationship to the head of household, sex, year of birth, educational attainment, economic activity status, type of disability, and degree of disability - Dual-income household status, multicultural household status, receipt of National Basic Livelihood Security benefits (livelihood and medical benefits), and receipt of other basic livelihood security benefits or near-poverty status - Length of residence in the relevant city, county, or district
B. Social Security-related Needs	- Needs across 13 social security domains: child care, older adult care, care for persons with disabilities, mental health, physical health, maintenance of basic living standards, family and social relationships, protection and safety, education, employment, housing, legal services and rights protection, and culture and leisure • Degree of difficulties experienced in each social security domain • Need for external support and services in each social security domain • Awareness and use of national and local government social security (welfare) support and services, and intention to use them within the next four years
C. Policy Urgency and Perceived Government Efforts	- Degree of policy urgency in each social security domain - Perceived level of efforts by cities, counties, and districts to develop policies in each social security domain
D. Living Conditions and Regional Disparities	- Living conditions and regional disparities across four areas • Living conditions (economic situation): average monthly income and living expenses, and perceived financial status • Housing conditions: type of housing, tenure type, and rent • Life satisfaction and perceptions of the local community: housing satisfaction, satisfaction with the local living environment, and subjective life satisfaction • Regional disparities: satisfaction with the area of residence and perceptions of regional disparities by domain
E. Common Items for Gwangju Metropolitan City	- Intention to continue residing in the area and awareness of relevant programs • Intention to continue residing in the area and awareness of Gwangju Integrated Care • Awareness of and need for programs addressing welfare blind spots
Gwangju Seo-gu-specific Items	- Experience using child care-related facilities and services, reduction in caregiving burden when using them, and level of satisfaction - Experience using older adult care-related services, reduction in caregiving burden when using them, and level of satisfaction - Experience using disability care-related services, reduction in caregiving burden when using them, and level of satisfaction

2) Gwangju Social Survey (2024)

- This survey aims to comprehensively assess both the quantitative and qualitative aspects of citizens’ lives by examining the living conditions and satisfaction of residents of Gwangju Metropolitan City

〈Table 3〉 Overview of the Gwangju Social Survey

Category	Survey Overview
Survey Cycle	Annual
Survey Target	Residents aged 15 and over in Gwangju Metropolitan City
Survey Period	August 23–September 9, 2024
Survey Scale	4,905 households
Survey Authority	Gwangju Metropolitan City
Survey Method	Face-to-face household interviews conducted by trained interviewers

Source: 2024 Gwangju Social Survey

〈Table 4〉 Survey Items of the 2024 Gwangju Social Survey

Category	Survey Items
Life Satisfaction	Satisfaction with life
Family	Ideal number of children, family members living separately and reasons for separation, measures to increase the birth rate, etc.
Health and Well-being	Self-rated health, methods of maintaining health, satisfaction with medical services, etc.
Social Participation and Social Inclusion	Donations, volunteering, sense of community, satisfaction with social welfare services, etc.
Income, Consumption and Assets	Average monthly household income
Safety	Fear of crime victimization, assessment of the safety environment, priority safety initiatives, etc.
Environment	Perceptions of environmental conditions and efforts to prevent environmental pollution
Information and Communication	Methods of obtaining up-to-date information, internet use, and use of smart devices
Local Government-specific Items	Items specific to Gwangju Metropolitan City and its five autonomous districts

Source: 2024 Gwangju Social Survey

3. Key Findings and Implications

■ Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

- Older households in Gwangju Seo-gu have an overall perception of social safety similar to that of all households; however, they report lower perceptions of safety regarding emerging infectious diseases and greater anxiety about walking at night in sparsely populated areas, indicating a need to improve the pedestrian environment.
- In the outdoor environment, relatively high levels of concern were reported regarding basic public order issues such as illegally dumped waste, jaywalking, and illegal parking.
 - To create a safe living environment, continuous management is required to improve vulnerable pedestrian areas and strengthen basic public order.

■ Housing and Transportation

- Among housing-related issues, older households experience the greatest difficulties in mobility and safety within the home, including risks associated with falls, level differences, and fires, and also report the greatest need for external support in this area.
 - Although actual use of housing improvement and safety-related services is low, more than 46% expressed an intention to use such services in the future, indicating a need to improve safety features within homes and expand access to relevant services.
- Older households report slightly higher levels of satisfaction with their current housing and community living environment than households overall.
 - While maintaining the current high level of satisfaction with the living environment, proactive improvements should focus on safety vulnerabilities in aging housing and everyday living spaces.

■ Communication and Information

- Awareness of Gwangju Integrated Care among older households is very low at 1.8%, while intention to use the service in the future is 52.7% and willingness to recommend it is 71.6%.

- Information accessibility appears low relative to demand for welfare and care services, highlighting the need to strengthen information provision through key places frequently used by older adults, such as administrative welfare centers, senior centers, and welfare centers.
- Awareness of major welfare programs in Gwangju Seo-gu is lower among older households than among households overall, while perceived need for every program is higher.
 - Tailored guidance that reflects the information-access characteristics of older adults and diverse online and offline information delivery systems are required.

■ Community Support and Health Services

- Overall difficulties related to older adult care are not high; however, the need for external support is relatively greater for housework, mobility and outings, and health-related emergencies.
 - Although actual use of care services is low, more than 70% expressed an intention to use mobility and outing support and emergency safety care services in the future, indicating a need to expand practical, everyday care services.
- Among older adult care services, senior centers show the highest rates of use and satisfaction and serve as key community-based welfare hubs for older adults.
 - A community-based support system is needed to connect senior centers with a wider range of health, care, and social participation services.
- Awareness and utilization of mental health services are generally low.
 - To enable early detection and prevention of mental health problems, information on available services should be strengthened and accessible community-based mental health support systems should be established.

■ Social Participation and Employment

- In the employment domain, difficulties related to working conditions, the work environment, family caregiving, and housework while maintaining employment are relatively greater than difficulties in finding employment or starting a business itself.
 - Policies are needed not only to provide jobs but also to support stable employment through

improved working environments and opportunities for career and skills development.

- Awareness and actual use of support services for cultural, leisure, and physical activities are very low.
 - Cultural and leisure programs that reflect older adults' needs and accessibility should be expanded, while promotion of and connections to existing services should be strengthened.

■ Respect and Social Inclusion

- Older households experience the greatest difficulty in maintaining basic living standards due to insufficient funds for medical expenses, while difficulties related to insufficient living and housing expenses are also relatively higher than among households overall.
 - Tailored support and stronger linkages to welfare services are needed for economically vulnerable older households.
- In the area of family and social relationships, difficulties in forming social relationships are relatively high, while awareness and use of related services remain low.
 - Community participation programs and support systems for building social networks should be expanded to prevent isolation and strengthen social relationships.
- Age-friendly disaster response and protection systems should be strengthened so that older adults can receive information quickly during emergencies and disasters.

3. Delphi Survey and Focus Group Interviews (FGI)

- Opinions were collected from 25 experts in the field of age-friendly cities.
 - Key concepts identified in defining an age-friendly city included coexistence, respect, community, and generations.
 - In the area of Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, emphasis was placed on creating safe and convenient living environments and age-friendly public facilities, improving user-centered services, and strengthening sustainable management systems.
 - Pedestrian safety should be enhanced by addressing illegal street stalls and obstructions and expanding pedestrian-priority roads, while systematic improvement measures that consider residents' acceptance are required.
 - In the process of digitally transforming public services and facilities, user environments that take the accessibility needs of older adults into account should be created, and tailored guidance and support systems should be strengthened.
 - Professional personnel and tailored services should be expanded to meet growing welfare needs, and stable operational systems should be established, including regular facility inspections and maintenance.
 - In the area of Housing and Transportation, the need to create a transportation environment that supports safe and convenient mobility for people with mobility difficulties and to strengthen tailored support systems that reflect mobility needs and housing characteristics by area and target group was emphasized.
 - Barrier-free bus stops and shelters should be expanded, and the management of priority seating areas and smart enforcement should be strengthened to create a public transportation environment that is safe and convenient for everyone.
 - Shared wheelchair-accessible vehicles and mobility support services in transportation-disadvantaged areas should be expanded, and systems should be established to proactively identify people in need of mobility support through collaboration with welfare institutions.
 - Tailored home improvements for aging housing and care-supportive housing should be expanded, while the provision of safety aids and public-private cooperation should be linked to strengthen the housing support system for stable community living.

- In the area of Community Support and Health Services, the need to improve older adults' access to health management and medical services and to strengthen tailored services and sustainable support systems that reflect their health and care needs was emphasized.
 - For older adults who have difficulty using digital devices, easy-to-use devices and accessible content should be provided, and integrated health management programs combining tailored education with exercise, nutrition, and health education should be expanded.
 - Outreach services, including hospital accompaniment, home visits, home-based medical care, and home vaccination, should be expanded for older adults in medically underserved areas and those with mobility difficulties, while systems for identifying vulnerable individuals and providing continuous case management should be strengthened.
 - Professional personnel and adequate funding should be secured, public-private cooperation should be strengthened, and a stable and sustainable service delivery system should be established, including 24-hour emergency response and equipment maintenance.
- In the area of Social Participation and Employment, the need to expand opportunities for older adults to participate in diverse social, cultural, and educational activities and to strengthen tailored programs and a sustainable foundation for participation that reflect local and facility-specific characteristics as well as individual capabilities and needs was emphasized.
 - Disparities in programs across facilities and areas should be reduced, community-based activity spaces should be expanded, and level-specific and tailored programs combining hobbies, health, and education, as well as intergenerational programs, should be expanded.
 - Opportunities for older adults to utilize their experience and capabilities through senior employment, talent sharing, and other activities should be expanded, while support for stable later-life preparation, including post-retirement life planning education and tailored counseling, should be strengthened.
 - Stable funding and professional personnel should be secured, and linkages with community resources should be strengthened, while a foundation for voluntary and sustained participation should be established through support for clubs, incentives, certification programs, and opportunities to share outcomes.

- In the area of Communication and Information, the need to strengthen tailored information provision for different target groups and public-private cooperation in outreach and promotion was emphasized in order to raise awareness of older adults' human rights and improve program visibility and accessibility.
 - Case-based human rights education and outreach tailored to different levels of understanding should be expanded to raise awareness of older adults' human rights and improve access to information.
 - Allowances and care services should be linked to enhance the perceived benefits of programs, while cooperation with private companies and organizations and proactive outreach should be strengthened to facilitate the early identification of households at risk and improve access to services.

■ The FGI was conducted with eight residents of Gwangju Seo-gu aged 65 and older.

- Accessibility to welfare facilities and overall satisfaction with the living environment are high, but disparities in living and pedestrian environments between older and newer urban areas need to be addressed.
- Facilities at aging welfare facilities and senior centers should be improved, and safe, pedestrian-centered environments should be created through sidewalk improvements.
- Everyday amenities such as accessible public restrooms and rest areas should be expanded.
- Disparities in housing and pedestrian environments between older and newer urban areas should be reduced, and safe and convenient living environments that consider the needs of older adults should be created.
- The foundation for stable community living should be strengthened by expanding everyday convenience facilities and improving access to medical services.
- A transportation environment that enables older adults to travel safely should be established by strengthening traffic order and providing training for transportation service workers.
- A tailored information delivery system is needed to directly provide older adults with necessary information on welfare, employment, and other services.
- Diverse delivery methods that reflect how older adults access and use information are required to bridge gaps between information providers and users.
- Everyday health management services utilizing community-based personnel should be expanded and sustainable support systems established.
- Participation conditions and operating methods for senior employment programs should be improved, and a continuously available and easily accessible job information system should be established.

- Opportunities for social participation that utilize older adults' expertise and experience should be expanded, together with additional activity spaces for diverse programs.
- Digital inclusion and intergenerational interaction should be expanded through smart senior centers to strengthen older adults' participation in the community.
- Opportunities for sustained social participation among older adults should be expanded, including through more flexible age criteria for volunteering.
- Based on a strong sense of pride in and satisfaction with the community, efforts are needed to reduce disparities between areas and create a balanced community environment in which everyone can experience tangible improvements.