

# 1. Analysis of Secondary Data

## 1) Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey (2023, 2024)

- This survey aims to provide basic data for policy-making and academic research by examining daily life and satisfaction centered on residential areas among citizens of Gyeongsangnam-do (including Gimhae citizens).
- The survey targets household members aged 15 and over in Gimhae City. To analyze policy demand for older adults, the survey results of all respondents were compared with those of respondents aged 65 and over.

<Table 1> Overview of the Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey

Category	2023 Survey Overview	2024 Survey Overview
Survey Cycle	Annual	
Survey Title	Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey	
Survey Target	Citizens aged 15 and over residing in Gyeongsangnam-do	
Survey Periods	April 28 – May 17, 2023 (20 days)	April 19 – May 8, 2024 (20 days)
Sample Size	1,000 households, 2,018 persons	1,000 households, 1,983 persons
Conducted by	Gyeongsangnam-do, each city and county	
Survey Method	Household visit interview, survey with a self-administered questionnaire, and web survey	

Source: 2023 Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey; 2024 Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey (reprocessed)

<Table 2> Survey Items of the Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey

Category	2023 Survey Items	Category	2024 Survey Items
Housing and Transportation	Number of moves before home acquisition after marriage; length of residence in the area and intention to stay ; satisfaction with the residential environment; pride and sense of belonging as a local resident; overall perception of the local community; commuting/schooling area; modes of transportation and travel time; satisfaction with transportation; solutions to local transportation problems; solutions to local traffic safety issues; pedestrian satisfaction	Health	Preferred types of exercise and required sports facilities; frequency of regular exercise; satisfaction with medical services; experience of suicidal impulses and reasons
Culture and Leisure	Satisfaction with time use; leisure activities on weekends (holidays); satisfaction with leisure activities; attendance at cultural, arts, and sports events; opinions on hosting local cultural festivals; tourism experiences within the province and areas for improvement; introducing Gyeongnam tourist attractions to people from other regions	Family and Household	Parents' financial support for children; responsibility for supporting parents; views on marriage; reasons for low birth rates and solutions; ideal number of children; childcare methods for preschool children and satisfaction with childcare; work-family balance support for childrearing; separated families; average monthly household income

<Table 3> Gimhae City-Specific Items in the Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey

Category	Characteristic Items
2023	Perspectives on after-school care services; measures for building a vibrant economic city; opinions on the Hwapocheon Ecological Park; future urban image and areas for improvement; perspectives on creating a healthy city
2024	Desired fields and regions for employment and start-up; job preferences; gaps between desired jobs and actual jobs; policies to promote employment and entrepreneurship of the young; perceptions of multicultural families and foreigners; reasons why multicultural families face difficulties in settling; necessary policies to support the settlement of multicultural families; perspectives on promoting bicycle use

Source: 2023 Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey; 2024 Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey (reprocessed)

## 2. Key Findings and Implications

- Results of the Gyeongsangnam-do Social Survey (April-May 2023-2024)
  - The scores on safety related to buildings and facilities (housing, bridges) and traffic accidents of the older adults in Gimhae City rated lower than the Gyeongsangnam-do average.
    - Compared to the provincial average, pedestrian satisfaction is about 10 percentage points lower, indicating the need to review the safety and convenience of the pedestrian environment.
  - Satisfaction with subways and light rail is high; however, concerns were raised about insufficient bus routes and unfriendly bus drivers.
    - In this regard, improvements to the road network and stronger transfer connections are needed, and in terms of service quality, projects such as traffic safety for drivers and pedestrians and campaigns to improve usage culture are required.
  - The level of housing satisfaction is somewhat lower than the Gyeongsangnam-do average, with particularly low satisfaction regarding the use of parking facilities within residential areas.
  - Older adults in Gimhae City watch more TV than those in Gyeongsangnam-do do, while satisfaction with leisure facilities and overall leisure activities is relatively high.
  - Older adults in Gimhae City show a stronger willingness to work even for lower wages compared to the overall Gimhae population, but demonstrate relatively low tolerance for workplace size and transportation inconvenience.
    - Rather than simply increasing the number of jobs, it is necessary to discover and connect age-friendly jobs centered on medium- to large-scale workplaces with transportation convenience.
  - The sense of community among older adults in Gimhae City appears relatively lower than the Gyeongsangnam-do average across key indicators such as “closeness with neighbors,” “mutual help,” and “participation in events.”
  - Utilization of internet-based media such as YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram is higher than the provincial average; however, while welfare-related information and two-way communication are found need of improvement.

- As supplementation is needed in the order of welfare, economy/industry, culture/tourism, and safety information, strengthening constant communication channels with citizens is required through the operation of customized online content by sector and online suggestion platforms.
- The sports with high participation interest include walking, swimming, and ball sports, and the required sports facilities—such as running tracks, swimming pools, fitness centers, and table tennis rooms—generally correspond to these activities.
  - While there is a large group of older adults who exercise almost daily or two to three times a week, other older adults show low levels of physical activity, indicating the need for customized support for physical activity by segmenting target groups.

### 3. Delphi Survey and Focus Group Interviews (FGI)

- Opinions were collected from 47 experts regarding the definition of an age-friendly city.
  - Key terms frequently derived in defining an age-friendly city included togetherness, health, safety, respect, happiness, and vitality.
  - In the area of regional development and housing, emphasis was placed on seeking self-sustaining strategies for rural renovation projects and promotion of resident-participatory planning. Issues were also raised regarding the shortage of professional staff and the need to improve accessibility for senior care-safe housing (Gaya Jeumchae).
    - Regarding the safe alleyway development project using CPTED techniques, it was pointed out that installations are limited to specific areas, highlighting the need to activate facilities such as streetlights and safety bells and to expand coverage to more regions.
    - For the gas shutoff device (timer cock) distribution project, difficulties in after-sales service were noted, along with insufficient linkage to emergency response systems. Better promotion and installation guidance targeting seniors with long-term care grades were suggested.
  - In terms of transportation, experts emphasized the need to improve pedestrian-friendly environments (sidewalk installation and maintenance), along with the importance of expanding call taxi support and securing drivers to guarantee

mobility rights for transportation–vulnerable populations.

- Regarding the expansion of the eco–friendly low–floor bus introduction project, it was suggested that deployment be expanded to major residential areas of transportation–vulnerable groups, along with the implementation of driver training to improve driving practices.
- For the transportation fare support program for elderly drivers returning their licenses, policies providing more practical support—such as increased subsidies or fare discount measures—were requested, along with stronger emphasis on the necessity of license return.
- In the health and care sector, suggestions included increasing staffing to reduce regional disparities in services for cardio–cerebrovascular disease prevention and management, addressing insufficient promotion of customized elderly care services, and developing differentiation strategies from long–term care services.
  - Regarding free fluoride application and scaling for seniors, expansion of mobile treatment services, improvement of reservation systems, and strengthening related education and promotion were requested.
  - For the denture and implant support project for seniors, concerns were raised about cost burdens and accessibility, and the development of cavities treatment programs was proposed.
  - Regarding support for the operation of free senior meal centers, it was suggested to distribute services across more areas or consider operating mobile senior meal services.
  - For the meal delivery service for homebound and malnourished seniors, issues such as double beneficiaries, food spoilage and food poisoning risks during summer, and the need to expand delivery infrastructure were raised.
  - Regarding the operation of the Gimhae Municipal Nursing Home, it was noted that the number of facilities is insufficient compared to demand, indicating the need for expansion, along with suggestions for fee support and placement of professional staff.
- In the area of safety and protection, it was pointed out that the supply of emergency safety services for elderly individuals living alone and persons with disabilities falls short of demand. Expansion of senior protection zones and installation of road safety facilities were also suggested.
  - Regarding programs for victims of domestic violence, the need for expanded hospital facilities and professional personnel, as well as non–face–to–face counseling and long–term programs, was emphasized.

- For the designation and improvement of senior protection zones, it was suggested that speed bumps and road safety facilities be installed not only within designated zones but also in areas such as senior centers and rural districts.
- In terms of intergenerational and intragenerational communication, proposals included expanding welfare budgets for the construction and renovation of senior centers and introducing IoT devices with continuous monitoring for the pilot project on preventing and managing lonely deaths.
  - For the theater education service project for children and seniors, the development of content that fosters intergenerational empathy was recommended.
  - Regarding the lonely death prevention and management pilot project, difficulties in identifying and continuously managing target individuals were noted, highlighting the need for IoT-based monitoring and regular preventive education.
- For information provision, suggestions included composing the age-friendly city monitoring group with diverse generations, incorporating a gender-sensitive perspective, and expanding citizen information education focused on practical daily life skills such as kiosk and smartphone use.
  - For citizen information education, mentoring support throughout training courses was suggested.
  - Regarding the Book Start book package support project, concerns about regional imbalance were raised, along with suggestions to provide large-print books for seniors and voice services using “Talking Pen” (SaeiPen) technology.
- In case of economic self-reliance, experts suggested discovering higher-quality jobs and increasing wages in senior employment and social participation programs, as well as strengthening reemployment linkages and expanding digital competency training for career-interrupted women.
  - For the career-based job program for middle-aged adults, expansion of actual job placements was deemed necessary.
  - For the “4050 Life RE-START” and “5060 Life RE-FLY” programs, opinions were expressed that increased financial support is needed for both.
- In the area of social activities, suggestions included expanding facilities, diversifying programs, and improving information provision to activate senior welfare center programs, as well as expanding sports facilities and establishing

clubs to promote daily life sports for seniors.

- Regarding the activation of senior welfare center programs, it was noted that long waiting lists make new participation difficult, and there were calls for more active and diversified programs.
- For the promotion of daily life sports for seniors, proposals included establishing senior-only sports centers or parks and expanding sports facilities.

■ FGI was conducted with 15 older adults aged 65 and over residing in Gimhae City.

## ■ FGI Results

- Gimhae City is evaluated as a good place for older adults to live, with a favorable residential environment, sufficient cultural and leisure facilities, and an excellent natural environment.
- Older adults expressed a desire for the expansion of high-quality senior jobs, information technology education, and social integration education.
- Regarding the external environment and facilities, improvements are needed in nature-friendly and safe walking trails and park facilities.
- In terms of transportation, enhancing convenience—such as extending the light rail system and expanding low-floor buses—was identified as important.
- The overall residential environment is considered satisfactory. While individual housing issues are perceived as a matter of personal choice, there is a generally positive attitude toward active support.
- Although there are various leisure and social activity programs and facilities, issues such as user overcrowding and lack of space were identified.
- Regarding respect and social integration, there is a need to understand generational differences and to provide education on respect for older adults.
- In terms of social participation and employment, providing high-quality, sustainable jobs and employment matching tailored to individual abilities were

identified as important.

- In the area of communication and information, older adults showed a strong willingness to participate in digital education, but the number and frequency of classes were found to be insufficient. The need to develop senior-friendly methods for information delivery was also suggested.
- Regarding health and community care, local care services are systematic; however, some health screening items were found to involve cost burdens.